

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. In light of a telephone conference with the Examiner (thank you again for taking time to discuss the appeal), claims 1, 3-6, 11, 13-16, 21, 22, and 27-30 have been amended. As discussed, it is believed the amendments represent allowable subject matter over the documents of record. In particular, for example, claim 1 as amended now recites:

receiving video and enhanced content information including at least one identifier of web content associated with the video information;

automatically storing a copy of said associated web content during a broadcast of said video information to allow arbitrary access thereto after said broadcast, said copy remaining accessible even if said associated web content is unavailable;

storing at least a portion of said received video information for subsequent playback after said broadcast; and

storing corresponding enhanced content information for subsequent access thereto after said broadcast, said storing configured to allow playback of said video information to be paused without losing synchronization between said video information and said copy of said web content.

It is respectfully submitted that neither Mankovitz (WO 98/48566), Butler (US 2002/0007493), nor other documents of record, whether considered individually or one in combination with the other teach or suggest the recited automatically (e.g., without user interaction/intervention) storing a copy of web content associated with a broadcast of video information, and having the web content remain available during a subsequent playback of the video information even if the web content becomes no longer available after the broadcast. Unavailability would include a single web page associated with a broadcast being updated during the broadcast, e.g., as may happen during a game

show, as well as more general content that may be taken off of a web site at some time after a broadcast.

Support for the various amendments is found, for example, in the discussion of Figure 2 at page 6 of the Specification which discusses an embodiment of providing a time-shifted video stream. See also the Figure 4 discussion at page 7 regarding digitizing broadcasts if desired. Regarding acquiring web content associated with a broadcast, the discussion of Figure 10 at page 13 line 13 of the specification discusses "enhancement data (or other types of ancillary information)" for a broadcast. As stated at page 13 line 22 through page 14 line 8:

Enhancement data may include graphics (e.g., web pages, multimedia information, or other digital data files), presentation layout, and synchronization information. Other types of ancillary information may include program sub-titles, closed caption messages, emergency messages, and program guide information. The combination of the enhancement data or ancillary information and A/V content may be referred to as enhanced content.

Synchronization between enhanced content is discussed, for example, at page 14 line 25. Random access to synchronized content is discussed, for example, at page 15 line 11 and at line 25 regarding how to synchronize to web content. Page 16 line 8 discusses the internal state of a web browser and thus indicates the ephemeral nature of web content, e.g., it can change over time. Variability of the web content again discussed at, for example, page 17 lines 2-5, it is stated "an earlier defined point of the browser state may be reloaded."

At page 17 lines 6-12 is discussed that a user need not interact with associated web content for it to be available as recited in the amended claims. For example, the specification states "the hot spots or links to the enhanced content are exposed to allow

the viewer to select the enhanced content during replay *if desired*" (emphasis added). As discussed with the Examiner, it was known that web browsers may cache copies of web pages (see page 18 line 8), but such a cache is not what is recited.

Other embodiments and various techniques for associating web content with a broadcast is illustrated and discussed in the specification. It is submitted that the above references show the presently amended embodiments are supported by the Specification and hence no new matter has been introduced by the amendments.

Regarding the claim 11 series, the amendments correspond to those performed for claim 1 series. For Examiner convenience in reviewing the amendments, claim 11 as amended recites:

receive video and enhanced content information including at least one identifier of web content associated with the video information;

automatically storing a copy of said associated web content during a broadcast of said video information to allow arbitrary access thereto after said broadcast, said copy remaining accessible even if said associated web content is unavailable;

storing at least a portion of said received video information for subsequent playback said broadcast; and

storing corresponding enhanced content information for subsequent access thereto after said broadcast, said storing configured to allow playback of said video information to be paused without losing synchronization between said video information and said associated web content.

Regarding independent claim 21, this claim as amended recites storing "a copy of the associated web content to allow arbitrary access thereto synchronized with replay of any portion of the video information, said copy automatically acquired during the broadcast without having to interact with said content and said copy remaining accessible even if originally associated web content is unavailable." It is believed this

language is patentable distinct over the documents of record. For Examiner convenience, claim 21 in its entirely as amended recites:

a processor; and
a random access memory, coupled to said processor, to store at least
video information for subsequent playback after a broadcast of said video
information,
enhanced content including at least one identifier of web content
associated with the video information, and
a copy of the associated web content to allow arbitrary access thereto
synchronized with replay of any portion of the video information, said copy
automatically acquired during the broadcast without having to interact with said content
and said copy remaining accessible even if originally associated web content is
unavailable.

Regarding claims 27 and 29, these claims have amended limitations analogous to those of claim 1. Each independent claim series has slight variations on what is recited but they all share the characteristic of providing automatic storage of web content associated with a video information broadcast and synchronized access to the web content during replay of the broadcast video information. Such is believed novel over the documents of record. For Examiner convenience, amended claim 27 recites:

receiving video and enhanced content information to at least identify web content
associated with the video information;
automatically storing a copy of said associated web content during a broadcast of
said video information to allow arbitrary access thereto after said broadcast, said copy
tracking changes in said associated web content during the broadcast and remaining
available;
determining a synchronization data between the video content and the stored copy
of the associated web content; and
storing the video information and the determined synchronization data for
subsequent synchronized playback after a broadcast of the video information, wherein
the associated web content is retained for at least as long as the video information
remains stored.

Claim 29 as amended recites:

automatically storing a copy of web content associated with video information during a broadcast of the video information to allow arbitrary access thereto after the broadcast, said copy tracking changes in said associated web content during the broadcast;

determining a synchronization data between the video content and the copy of the associated web content; and

storing the video information and the determined synchronization data for subsequent synchronized playback after a broadcast of the video information, wherein the associated web content is retained for at least as long as the video information remains stored.

Regarding other amended claims not specifically discussed, they also introduce features not taught or suggested by the documents of record.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit all claims are presently in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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